

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 167933
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY S/AA:ALATHERTON, JR./HLK:LHW
APPROVED BY NEA:MSTERNER
S/S-O:RGAMBLE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO WHITE HOUSE 0382

S E C R E T STATE 167933

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, SA, XF

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRINCE TURKI

REF: JIDDA 4760

1. RE PARA ONE REFTTEL, YOU WILL HAVE BY NOW RECEIVED MESSAGE ABOUT NEXT STEPS IN OUR PEACE EFFORTS WHICH CONTAINS GUIDANCE FOR RESPONDING TO SAUDI DISCOURAGEMENT WITH SADAT INITIATIVE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE TO BUCK SAUDIS UP AND GET ACROSS TO THEM THAT NOT ONLY DO WE NOT BELIEVE SADAT INITIATIVE SHOULD BE DROPPED BUT WE ARE IN FACT ON THE VERGE OF EFFORTS TO GIVE IT NEW MOMENTUM.

2. RE PARA TWO REFTTEL, WE DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO A NEW EXCHANGE ABOUT LAST SUMMER'S EXERCISE RELATING TO PLO ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 242. IF OCCASION ARISES, HOWEVER,

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YOU SHOULD CORRECT PRINCE TURKI'S MISPERCEPTION OF WHAT THAT EXERCISE WAS ALL ABOUT. OUR POSITION WAS AND REMAINS THAT IF PLO ACCEPTS RESOLUTION 242 AND THE RIGHT OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA, INCLUDING ISRAEL, TO LIVE IN PEACE, WITH RESERVATION RESPECTING INADEQUACY OF RES. 242 IN DEALING WITH PALESTINIAN ISSUE, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO ENTER INTO OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH PLO. ALL OF THIS WAS

IN THE CONTEXT OF EFFORTS WE WERE THEN MAKING TO RECONVENE

GENEVA, BUT WE MADE CLEAR TO ALL CONCERNED INCLUDING THE SAUDIS THAT RECONVENING GENEVA WAS NOT JUST UP TO US; IT WOULD REQUIRE AGREEMENT OF ALL THE PARTIES TO GENEVA. WE ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT, EVEN IF THE PLO TOOK THE STEP WE WERE DISCUSSING, WE CAN MAKE NO COMMITMENTS ON BEHALF OF ISRAEL THAT IT WOULD AGREE TO PLO PARTICIPATION. AS FOR GENEVA ITSELF, IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR VIEW THAT IT REMAINS THE ULTIMATE FORUM FOR FINALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT, BUT RECONVENING GENEVA IS NOT REPEAT NOT NOW AN IMMEDIATE ITEM ON OUR AGENDA.

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